



Cannabis Advisory Committee

Overview

On October 4, 2017, the Department of Consumer Affairs announced the members of the state's new Cannabis Advisory Committee under the Bureau of Cannabis Control (BCC).

The committee will advise BCC and the other licensing authorities – the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Department of Public Health – on the development of regulations that help protect public health and safety and reduce the illegal market for cannabis.

Per Business and Professions Code Section 26014:

(a) The bureau shall convene an advisory committee to advise the licensing authorities on the development of standards and regulations pursuant to this division, including best practices and guidelines that protect public health and safety while ensuring a regulated environment for commercial cannabis activity that does not impose such barriers so as to perpetuate, rather than reduce and eliminate, the illicit market for cannabis.

(b) The advisory committee members shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the cannabis industry, including medicinal cannabis, representatives of labor organizations, appropriate state and local agencies, persons who work directly with racially, ethnically, and economically diverse populations, public health experts, and other subject matter experts, including representatives from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, with expertise in regulating commercial activity for adult-use intoxicating substances. The advisory committee members shall be determined by the director.

(c) Commencing on January 1, 2019, the advisory committee shall publish an annual public report describing its activities including, but not limited to, the recommendations the advisory committee made to the licensing authorities during the immediately preceding calendar year and whether those recommendations were implemented by the licensing authorities.

Committee members serve at the pleasure of the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Members will not be paid, but will be reimbursed for any necessary travel to approved advisory committee meetings.

Cannabis Advisory Committee Members

Avis Bulbulyan, CEO, SIVA Enterprises / President, Los Angeles Cannabis Task Force
Cannabis Industry Representative

Timmen Cermak, MD, Psychiatrist, California Society of Addiction Medicine
Physician Representative

Matt Clifford, California Water Project Attorney, Trout Unlimited
Environmental Expert Representative

Bill Dombrowski, President and CEO, California Retailers Association
Business Representative

Jeffrey P. Ferro, Director, Cannabis Workers Rising / Executive Assistant to the Director of Organizing, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union
Labor Organization Representative

Kristin Heidelberg-Teramoto, International Representative/Cannabis Division Director, Teamsters
Labor Organization Representative

Eric Hirata, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
Alcoholic Beverage Control Representative

Alice A. Huffman, President, California Hawaii NAACP
Community Equity Representative

Catherine Jacobson, Director of Clinical Research, Tilray Global
Cannabis Patient Advocate

Arnold S. Leff, MD, REHS, County Health Officer, Santa Cruz County
Public Health Expert

Kristin Lynch, Deputy Executive Director, Service Employees International Union, Local 1021
Labor Organization Representative

Kristin Nevedal, Chief Compliance Officer, Sunfed, Inc. / Chair, International Cannabis Farmers Association
Cannabis Industry Representative

Joe Nicchitta, Cannabis Management Officer, Office of Cannabis Management, Los Angeles County
County Representative

LaVonne Peck, Owner, Native Network Consulting
Cannabis Industry Representative

Matt Rahn, Mayor Pro-Tem, City of Temecula
City Representative

Keith Stephenson, Founder and CEO, Purple Heart
Cannabis Industry Representative

James W. Sweeney, Consultant, James W. Sweeney & Associates
Community Equity Representative

Tamar Todd, Legal Director, Drug Policy Alliance
Community Equity Representative

Helena Williams, Captain, Drug Evaluation & Classification Program, California Highway Patrol
State Law Enforcement Representative

David Woolsey, Sergeant, Division of Medical Marijuana Control, San Jose Police Department
Local Law Enforcement Representative

Ben Wu, Chief Operating Officer, Kush Bottles
Cannabis Industry Representative

Beverly Yu, Policy Analyst, United Domestic Workers/AFSCME Local 3930
Labor Organization Representative